

We claim:

1. A method for the treatment of a patient who has suffered a stroke, said method comprising the application of continuous positive airway pressure to said patient.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said pressure is applied in a bi-level fashion.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said patient's arterial blood oxygen level is improved.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said patient's carbon dioxide blood level is reduced.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein auto regulation of blood pressure, cardiac output and ventilation is improved.
6. An apparatus for the treatment of stroke patients, said apparatus comprising:
 - (a) an airflow generator;
 - (b) an interface adapted to fit a patient; and
 - (c) a conduit for the flow of air from said generator to said interface, said airflow being delivered to said interface at a pressure which exceeds atmospheric pressure for at least a portion of a breathing cycle of said patient.

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